


NHDES
Aquatic Resource Mitigation
Program


Chapter Env-Wt 800 Wetland Mitigation Rules

- Require avoidance, minimization then compensation for unavoidable impacts.
- Establish thresholds and provides ratios for wetland creation, restoration, and/or land preservation.
- Require functional assessments.
- Establish criteria for mitigation plans and for preservation proposals.



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Resource Type	Creation	Restoration	Upland Buffer Preservation
Bog	N/A	2 : 1	15 : 1
Tidal Wetlands	3 : 1	2 : 1	15 : 1
Forested	1.5 : 1	1.5 : 1	10 : 1
Undeveloped Tidal Buffer Zone	N/A	2 : 1	3 : 1
All Other Jurisdictional Areas	1.5 : 1	1 : 1	10 : 1




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Importance of Upland Landscape

- Non-breeding summer habitat for amphibians
- Winter hibernation sites
- Upland characteristics influences water chemistry of wetlands.

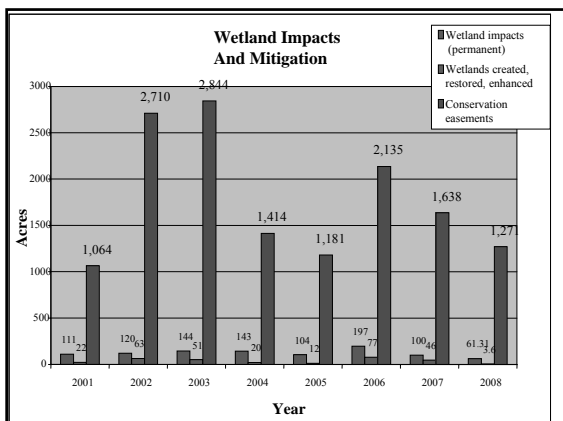





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Upland Buffer Preservation

- Surrounds or provides a minimum of 100' buffer to aquatic resource
- Minimum of 50% of preservation parcel is upland habitat
- Connects to existing conservation lands
- Protected through fee simple transfer or conservation easement
- Submit baseline documentation report and draft deed language

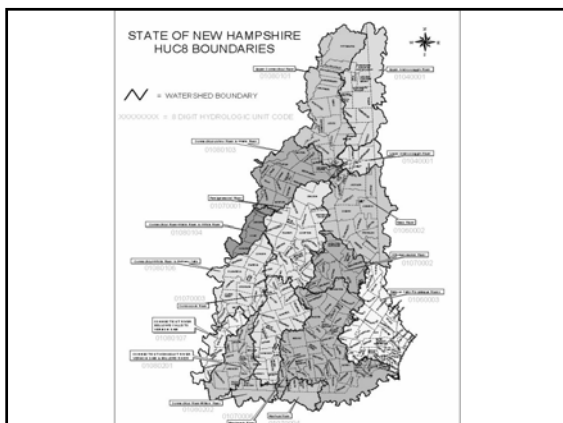





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Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund

- An additional mitigation option for projects that have met avoidance and minimization.
- An option for projects proposing less than one acre of impact.
- Process of providing a payment into a fund that pools money together to be spent in the "watershed" where impacts occurred.
- Funds go toward wetland restoration, preservation of land adjacent to aquatic resources, wetland creation or aquatic resource improvements.






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Calculating a Mitigation Payment

Need to first adjust the impact amount according to the ratio required for wetland creation.

- \$65,000 X Adjusted Acreage Amount
- DRA land value adjuster X Adjusted Acreage Amount
- 5% overhead to administer the ILF program



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IMPACTS: 11,700 sq. ft. = 0.27 acres
ADJUSTED BY CREATION RATIO
 0.27 X 1.5 = 0.4 acres

A = 0.4 X \$65,000
 = \$26,188

B = 0.4 X \$
 = \$706

C = (\$26,713 + \$525)(0.05)
 = \$1,336

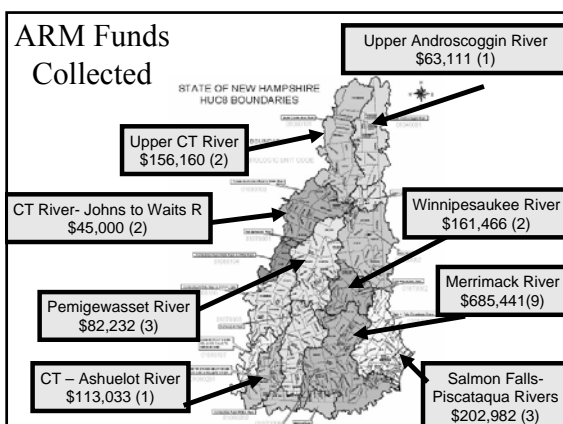
TOTAL ARM PAYMENT = \$28,049




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Projects that may apply for mitigation funds

- Development of final wetland creation or restoration plans
- Construction costs associated with creation or restoration from initial clearing to monitoring and follow-up remedial measures
- Acquisition of land and cost for protection in perpetuity; acquisition of conservation easements
- Legal fees associated with protection of land as well as stewardship fees
- Other: dam removal and/or stream restoration projects, culvert replacement work to provide habitat improvement






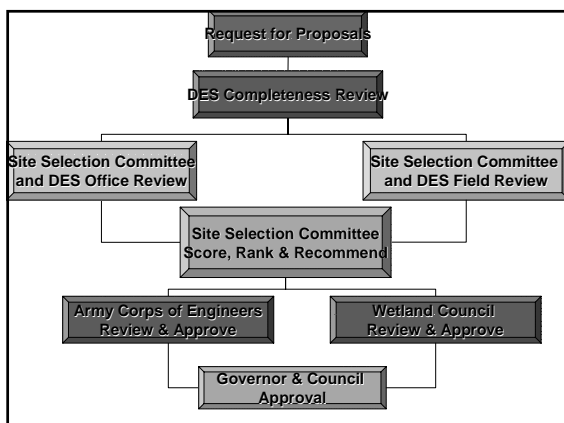
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AQUATIC RESOURCE MITIGATION FUND

FUNDS COLLECTED IN MERRIMACK RIVER WATERSHED \$650,000

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:
APRIL 6 – JUNE 5**







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www.des.nh.gov

- Rules, forms, fact sheets
- Mitigation checklist
- Sample baseline documentation report
- Draft easement deed language
- Calculator for ARM payment
- Ledger of payments made into ARM fund
- ARM application and information packet
- Watershed announcements

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